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HEXAMETHYLENE DIAMINE AND
HEXAMETHYLENE DI-ISOCYANATE

As per our phone conversation of April 21, hexamethylene diamine is a skin irritant and will also irritate the eyes and mucous membrane of the nose and throat. Our experimental work has been on rats only, but concentrations as low as 1% (in vaseline) produced contact irritation of the skin.

We have carried out acute toxicity tests on rats with hexamethylene di-isocyanate and find the oral M.L.D. to be 0.94 grams per kilo body weight. Rats that died showed gastric irritation with edema and cyanosis of the mucosa and some necrosis of the superficial cells of the mucosa. Reports from I.C.I. indicate that hexamethylene di-isocyanate is highly irritant to the skin and eyes. In addition, it is absorbed readily through the skin so that care must be taken to avoid skin contact when the compound is being handled.

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